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The Ethiopian Peoples' Revolutionary
Party Program



ነሐሴ 1967 ዓ . ም .

AUGUST 1975



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I

Politically, economically and socially,
Ethiopia is one of the most backward countries
in the world. The average per capita income of
the people is \$ 60 U.S.; 93% of the peoples
are illiterate, average life expectancy is
below 35 years. These and other indicators
go to show that Ethiopia is one of the few
most backward countries in the world.

Because of the messy economic situation,
the unemployed have flooded the cities, in
the countryside the peasants are killed or
threatened by famine. A slight natural
disaster like scanty rainfall can cause
thousands of death through starvation. In
the past three years hundreds of thousands
of peoples have died because of starvation in
Tigrai, Wollo, Northern Shoa, Hararghe, Bale
Sidamo, Gemu Gofa, etc.

Politically, the Ethiopian peoples are denied basic democratic rights like freedom of speech, press, association, demonstration, etc. Thousands of political police have been let loose among the people to gag them and create mistrust amongst the peoples.

Progressive and democratic individuals have been and are being arrested and shot without ever appearing in courts.

There is no equality among the various nationalities in the country. Nevertheless, the government has declared a "scorched earth policy" of burn all and kill all irrespective of age and sex when the oppressed nationalities rise up in struggle to defend their rights. Through its criminal activities, the government has created suspicion and hatred amongst the various

nationalities. The church and the state are still not separated. The government still interferes in religion and uses religion for political purposes. It discriminates against other religions.

In general our country, which is under the control of imperialism, is one of the most backward countries in the world where political oppression, national subjugation and economic exploitation are rampant. The main cause for all these types of oppression is the feudobourgeois political and economic system that is intimately linked with imperialism. When the Ethiopian masses revolutionary struggle for New Democracy erupted in February, 1974 the military junta rode on the revolutionary tide of the peoples and took power to lay obstacles and to distort the revolution for its own purpose.

The Ethiopian Peoples' Revolutionary Party (E.P.R.P.), since its founding three and half years ago, undertook the task of organizing the peoples under the leadership of the proletariat, to struggle against and liberate themselves from all forms of oppression and thereby set themselves forcibly for a genuine political, sound and economic development. Even though, (mainly because of the degree of oppression in the country) the Party was not strong enough to come out in the open and assume the leadership of the February Revolution, it nevertheless consistently championed and provided slogans to the best of its ability in order to intensify as well as set the revolution along the correct path. To raise the political consciousness of the working class and the broad masses, the Party has under-

taken unreserved agitational and propaganda work. Through political pamphlets on critical issues and through both of its organs "Democratia" and "Lab Adder" (formerly known as "Abiyot"), the Party carried out consistent and uninterrupted propaganda as well as agitation among the broad masses for well over one year now. The E.P.R.P. is the party of the working class. It is guided by the working class ideology Marxism-Leninism. Its aim is to strengthen the unity and alliance of the workers and peasants so as to ultimately establish Proletarian Dictatorship in the era of Socialism and eventually establish a classless Communist Society free from oppression and exploitation of man by man. Nevertheless, the immediate goal of the E.P.R.P. is to consummate the New Democratic Revolution, under the leadership of the working class.

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The Party does not call for the immediate realization of its final aim defying or wishing away the objective situation prevailing in Ethiopia now. On the contrary it shall use the dialectical method to analyze each concrete condition and revolutionary steps to be taken.

The present concrete conditions demand the abolition of feudalism and imperialism so that the broad masses of the people win their political and democratic rights; that is to say to complete the New Democratic Revolution. The New Democratic Revolution which unfolded itself in February, 1974 is far from being completed. It will be consummated only when such paramount political as well as economical measures are taken to lay a solid foundation over which a genuine socialist society can be built. Since the broad masses of the people

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lacked a Party capable of uniting and forming a broad united front in order to realise their objective political and economic needs, the military junta by separating politics from economics, passed some radical economical reform bills and simultaneously denied the peoples' democratic rights to better impose its dictatorial rule particularly in the sphere of politics. For some time now even the armed forces have no influence on the junta whatsoever. Some progressive officers and the lower rank and file of the 'Derg' members have lost control over the Junta; at best they simply approve what a few officers have already decided and in some cases already implemented. No wonder therefore that the bureaucrat bourgeoisie and the upper petty bourgeoisie have taken control of the financial, industrial, commercial and

other enterprises now nationalized. Similarly, it has become next to impossible to implement the decree on land reform.

Undoubtedly, the broad masses of the peoples do not take this as a genuine revolution. And because of this, the military junta has long concluded that the peoples' defiance was engineered by progressive intellectuals, revolutionary students, progressive teachers and union leaders whom it has started rounding up imprisoning and shooting down in cold blood without any trial. The junta denied the peoples their democratic rights, and also undertook a campaign of genocide against oppressed nationalities who refuse to lay down their arms until they win their rights. It launched a flagrantly vicious chauvinistic propaganda campaign designed to poison the friendly feelings of the Ethiopian nationalities.

All along, the feudalist elements are grouping and organizing themselves all over the country. The imperialist powers are pursuing a dual policy of strengthening their relations and control over the military junta on the one hand, and of establishing closer relations with the feudalists elements on the other.

The February revolutionary struggle of the Ethiopian masses is threatened with defeat. None of the basic contradictions which led to the February revolution are correctly or fully resolved. Thus, the only guarantee for the victory of the peoples' struggle is to forcibly advance and consummate the New Democratic Revolution.

The E.P.R.P. after three and half years of clandestine existence and struggle, after strengthening its organizational structures

and consolidating its forces now openly declares its aims and objectives with full revolutionary confidence.

The New Democratic Revolution, led by the working class aims to realize the interest of not only the working class but also the broad masses of the Ethiopian peoples, i.e. of the various classes and strata oppressed by feudalism and imperialism. As the New Democratic Revolution is the collective endeavor of the broad masses of the peoples, it is indeed duty of all the revolutionary classes to actively struggle for its realization.

In order to realize the New Democratic Revolution the E.P.R.P joins hand with all anti-feudalist, anti-imperialist parties and organizations under a common united front provided the political, organizational, ideological, and agitational independence of the various parties within the united front is maintained.

Henceforth the working peoples of Ethiopia will not tolerate oppression and exploitation no matter the source. The working people do not accept the domination of any group or individuals no matter what power it may possess. It knows what is good for itself and fights against all those who advance their own particular interest in the name of the Ethiopian masses. It will not bow to whoever has a gun in its hands. If the democratic rights of the working peoples are respected it will struggle for the realization of its final objectives in a democratic way; if the rights are denied, it will employ and adopt appropriate forms of struggle necessary to advance the revolution.

The E.P.R.P. armed with the ideology of the working class, relying on the all conquering collective strength of the broad

masses of the peoples, and always keeping in line with the interest of the masses is wholly confident to resolve all the questions posed by the broad masses of people until final victory.

I TO DESTROY THE RULE OF FEUDALISM AND IMPERIALISM, ESPECIALLY IMPERIALISM BY THE U.S. AND ITS REPRESENTATIVES- BUREAUCRAT BOURGEOISIE, AND COMPRADOR BOURGEOISIE AND TO ESTABLISH PEOPLES' DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE BROAD MASSES.

The PEOPLES' DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC shall be established under the leadership of the working class and shall be based on the alliance of workers and peasants; and shall embrace all progressives, students, progressive intellectuals, small merchants, progressive soldiers, poor urban dwellers, and their like. The Provisional Peoples' Government to be set up for the first time shall be composed of representatives from such sections of the society.

II TO ESTABLISH A BROAD, DEMOCRATIC AND PROGRESSIVE POLITICAL SYSTEM.

1. To establish a NATIONAL PEOPLES' CONGRESS in which the genuine representatives of the broad masses of the peoples' participate.

The N.P.C. shall draft the constitution of the Republic, promulgate laws, conduct election for Peoples' Government, adopt economic plans, on national scale, and ratifies international treaties and or agreements.

To protect the rights of all the various nationalities in the country; nationalities who have common economic, geographical, historical origin; cultural and psychological makeup and other common factors shall have full right of internal administration and shall establish their own National Congresses empowered to promulgate laws and carry out similar activities necessary to ensure this right.

In all regions and at all levels, the people concerned have the right to elect and the right to recall if necessary their administrations at all times.

2. To legally establish and ensure in practice the exercise of democratic rights like freedom

of speech, press and correspondence, worship, assembly, associations procession and demonstration.

3. To safeguard the freedom of activity for all political parties, organizations, and individuals, irrespective of their ideological or political inclinations as long as their objective stands are anti-feudal, anti-bureaucratic bourgeoisie and anti-imperialist.

4. To forbid for a limited period from participating in politics all those individuals and groups who have taken anti-people stand during the revolutionary struggle.

To pronounce the appropriate punishment on all fascists and other incorrigible reactionary elements who engaged or engage in criminal activities against the broad masses of the Ethiopian peoples.

To abolish all secret political police organizations like the Security Department, the Cabinet, and the Special Branch that continue to

terrorize and commit untold crimes against the people.

5. To separate the church and the state, to oppose discrimination against any religion and support equality of all religions; to ensure that the state does not interfere in religion, and that religion plays no part in politics; and to separate education from religion.

6. To establish a just and effective legal system free from nepotism corruption and other malpractices. To ensure that all judges and their like are directly elected by the affected people or representatives thereof.

7. To release all political prisoners who are locked in because they defended or struggled for the peoples' cause; to annul all fascistic and antidemocratic laws, decrees and provisions; to prohibit arrest without warrant or imprisonment without conviction, and strictly prohibit cruel and inhuman forms of punishment.

8. To forbid high government officials from engaging in industry, agriculture, commerce and the like with the view to advance their own private interests or amass personal wealth.

9. To prepare the necessary political basis for the impending socialist society.

III. TO ESTABLISH PLANNED AND DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL ECONOMY FREE FROM FOREIGN DOMINATION AND TO IMPROVE THE MATERIAL AND SPIRITUAL WELLBEING OF THE BROAD MASSES.

1. On Ownership and Development of Rural Agricultural Land:

To ensure, under the leadership of the poor and middle peasants that such lands come under the full control of the broad peasant masses in PRACTICE, to struggle against the restoration of feudal land-holding systems; to help the poor and middle peasants to organize themselves for this purpose; to arm them properly and help them set up peoples' revolutionary peasant

militia within peasant associations.

A. On utilization of land: There shall be three types of land ownership--private individual ownership, cooperative forms of ownership, and state ownership which in turn give rise to private farms, cooperative farms and state farms.

(i) To protect the right to individual farming, and at the same time persuade these to establish and encourage those who have already established cooperative farms through mass education and by supplying credits at low interest rates payable over a reasonably long period for buying agricultural implements, oxen, tractors, seeds, fertilizers, and the like.

(ii) Cooperative farms are those where the working peasants pool their resources and labor-power more and more, step by step. The state shall help cooperative farms by giving appropriate education in modern techniques of farming, by supplying improved seeds, fertilizers, etc.

The state will encourage and assist cooperative

state farms where higher level technology and modern machines are utilized in large scale.

The state will also undertake the responsibility to stabilize the market so that state farms can sell their produce at reasonable prices. These farms will operate in a manner consistent with the general line and administrative policies of the state. The state shall coordinate their activities to that effect.

(iii) State farms are modern and large farms that were run by the royal family, the aristocracy, the big bureaucrat bourgeoisie and comprador bourgeoisie and other capitalists--domestic or foreign--before the changes were made on land ownership. Also included in this category are those farms which are or will be taken over due to the lack of necessary material resources and technical knowhow at local level in order to operate such modern farms using rural wage labourers. If as a result of a serious shortage of land the people in the region needed such farms for

individual of cooperative farming or cattle grazing, then these farms will be given back to the people that needed them. The state shall also provide children of workers on state farms with the necessary medical, educational, vocational, and childcare services.

B. The state will, in an all-round way, improve and develop agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry, etc. using modern technology and know-how and also diversify agricultural produce in order to do away with dependence on one or two cash crops

C. To run the three types of farming as effectively and as efficiently as possible. Before embarking on settlement or resettlement schemes the state shall consult and seek the permission of the local people concerned. Poor peasants and those who used to be tenants under communal landholding systems shall be given reasonably adequate land; ownership of land will be adjusted to benefit those without any land whatsoever. Individuals serving religious organ-

izations and who are willing to engage in actual farming activities shall be given priority in the redistribution of lands held by such religious institutions.

D. To make every effort to settle nomadic people by supplying them with suitable land for agriculture, with farm implements and other things necessary for settlement. In particular the peoples' state shall undertake to dig water wells, irrigation canals, to provide veterinary services, including the use of modern methods and cooperatives to raise their livestock.

E. To abolish excessive and multiple taxation imposed on the peoples and to adopt a unified graduated income tax policy commensurate with the peoples' standard of living.

2. On urban land and housing: to make all urban land the property of the peoples state; and to guarantee by law the right to ownership

of ones dwelling house.

To make state property all villas, apartment buildings, and other constructions owned by the rich or by organizations found on private interests; to lease land for those who want to build their own dwelling houses; to provide the necessary help for those who have no other income other than that obtained from house rent; to rent at reasonable prices to the people at large all dwelling houses taken over or newly constructed by the state; to reduce rent from time to time and make rentees owners of the houses rented, after a limited period time.

3. On Industry And Finance:

A. To abolish the monopolistic control of industry and finance by the imperialists and their allies-- the bureaucrats and comprador bourgeoisie; to build and develop the economy and finance free from foreign dependence and in line with the

objective needs and under the control of the peoples; to confiscate all property of imperialists, feudalists, (those were, are members of the aristocracy, big landlords, etc.) and all those who committed serious crimes against the peoples.

B. To make the property of the state all financial institutions (banks, Insurance companies, mortgages corporations) etc. power stations, big transport companies, communications, basic industries, mines, etc. and not only to keep them so but also make under the direct control of the people, in practice; to allow private business activities particularly in the industrial sector as long as they are not linked with imperialism, and are not conflicting with either the national economic policy or the interests of the masses; to protect local industries from unfair foreign competition by applying appropriate tax exemption and tariff policies; to plan for a balanced and self reliant economy based on the correct.

relationship between agriculture and industry and between light and heavy industries.

4. On Commerce:

A. To expand the domestic market by encouraging and facilitating the flow as well as exchange of commodities amongst the various regions and economic sectors of the country.

B. To trade with all foreign countries irrespective of their political and social systems on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

C. To bring under state control imports and exports that affect the economy significantly; to prohibit the importation of luxury goods and instead import materials basic to the needs of the vast majority of the Ethiopian peoples; to keep in check the exportation of foodstuff and similar items necessary for the livelihood of the peoples.

D. To put part of the wholesale trade under state control.

E. To protect retailers from big business and foreign competitors by way of tax reduction and improving the availability of goods to sell, The state will also encourage them to engage in cooperative trading.

5. To lay the necessary economic and technical basis for the forthcoming socialist society.

IV TO DECLARE AND SAFEGUARD THE UNRESTRICTED RIGHT OF NATIONS TO SELF-DETERMINATION

1. a) To give full rights to the peoples' of the various Ethiopian nationalities to determine their own destiny, and at the same time carry out a peaceful political struggle for a voluntary union of the type they choose on the basis of equality and feeling of brotherhood; to condemn and to struggle against the militaristic slaughter of the Eritrean people to

solve the question; to ensure that the Eritrean question is resolved peacefully and democratically; similarly to bring about a peaceful and democratic solution to the question of the Somalis nationality residing within Ethiopia; in general to seek peaceful and democratic solutions to all such question if and when raised.

b) To develop all the languages of the various nationalities; to develop those already with scripts and establish as well as develop those without; to cultivate all beneficial cultures and customs of every nationality on equal basis and to erradicate discrimination against any nationality and abolish oppression of nationalities including the policy of forcible Amharnization.

2. To set up regions and allow internal self-administration for national minorities whose members are significantly grouped together.

3. To recognize and safeguard the right of minority nationalities to internal self administration commensurate with the size and level of economic development of each minority nationality.

V TO SAFEGUARD THE INTEREST AND RIGHTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

1. With respect to the working class (proletariat): To recognize and respect workers' right to strike; to guarantee and safeguard the well being of the workers by establishing a sound social security system including adequate pension plans, free medical treatment for occupational diseases, insurance against accidents and unemployment, and to provide the opportunity of employment to all workers and potential workers; to prohibit the employment of persons under the age of 16 in factories or mines; to ensure that every worker has an annual leave of at least 25 working days.

On working Conditions:

- a) To limit normal working hours to 8 hours per day, and to safeguard the right of every worker to a rest period of 48 consecutive hours per week.
- b) To ensure that workers have adequate sick-leave and leave for union activities; to build residential quarters for workers around and near their working places and to improve the working environment and also to ensure their effectiveness in the work they are engaged in; to establish kindergarten and childcare centers around the workplace for children of workers; to set minimum wage levels commensurate with the prevailing costs of living; to adjust wages (salaries) of workers to cover cost of living increases; to give wage (salary) increases to workers: to make permanent (regular) employees all daily (temporary) workers engaged in works of continuous nature; to create conditions that will

ensure permanent (regular) employment to workers engaged in temporary or irregular works; to put factories and modern farms under the full control and direction of the working people; to bring all production and distribution activities under the control of workers; to prohibit by law all kinds of discrimination based on sex, nationality, religion, etc. in general and in connection with employment opportunity and other benefits arising therefrom in particular; to prohibit pecuniary or similar punishment especially dismissal of workers unless and until consented or agreed upon by the workers' unions concerned; to create conditions for workers in factories, industries, etc. to receive continuous political, vocational and basic academic training; to establish and expand recreational places and facilities for workers; to establish and strengthen in every

factory or industry workers' revolutionary guards recruited from amongst themselves to crush internal and external reactionary and counter-revolutionary elements, and to arm workers in general to struggle for as well as defend their rights.

2. On the Toiling Masses:

To establish and implement a comprehensive social security system that will, among other things:

- find employment for those looking and able to work; provide the essentials for life to the needy until employed.
- build grain storages in order to combat natural disasters like draught, flood, pests and the like; and to establish an effective as well as responsive organization which makes it its business to fight against such calamities and gather help to victims of earthquake, attacks by locusts, etc.; to care for the old, to create the opportunity for the disabled to engage in suitable and productive work; to accomodate and teach

needy orphans as well as those deserted by their parents; to accomodate and help all those who are disabled while opposing and fighting against U. S. imperialism, the fascistic autocratic regime and/or against economic plunder and exploitation and/or against religious and national oppression, etc. if and when they stand in need of such accommodation and assistance; to establish pension and insurance scheme for civil servants; to also recognize and safeguard the right of civil servants to form association and/or unions.

VI TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CULTURE AND EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM AND TO RUN PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES CATERING TO THE MASSES

1. In the sphere of education and culture;

- a) To sweep away the feudal and imperialist cultures that continue to corrode the good cultures of Ethiopian peoples; to abolish all feudal and reactionary cultures; to establish national cultures based on the beneficial cultural heritages of the peoples of Ethiopia; to cultivate progressive peoples' culture embracing the positive aspects of each nationality's

people's culture; to totally dismantle the educational system which inculcates national(ity) chauvinism, elitism, individualism and contempt for the masses, etc.; instead of courage in the search for truth, love and democracy for the masses, etc.; to establish and develop an educational system that from the very start will, among other things, link the theoretical and academic preparation of students directly with the productive activities of the proletariat and the peasantry so that they become part and parcel of the working masses in thought and in action; in general to gear education in tune with the objective needs of the toiling masses and the level of the country's socio-economic development.

b) To erradicate illiteracy; to make education free, to declare and institute compulsory primary education for all school-age children, to make sure that educational opportunity is pro-

vided to all children and particularly to children who are members of nationalities oppressed or live in regions neglected by the feudobourgeose regime; to establish and expand universities, technical and vocational schools; to make education available in the languages of the various nationalities; to provide education free of charge; to open boarding schools for the children of workers and poor peasants, give them adequate stipends, etc., to enable them attend schools; to standardise the quality of education all over the country; to abolish the outdated, anti-people examination system and institute in its place a scientific method of assessment beneficial both to the students and the communities they are part of; an assessment which is in tune with the realities prevailing in the world.

c) All educational institutes (organizations) shall be run and controlled by the state.

d) To recognize and safeguard the right of students to organize themselves without pressure, to fully participate in the school administration, in course designing, programming, and methods of instructions, in disciplinary procedures as well as practices,

e) To encourage intellectuals and scientists to develop science, technology, peoples' literature and art, for the benefit of the working people; to open all institutions of higher learning to workers and peasants.

2. Concerning Public Health;

a) To protect the health of the peoples, to expand health and medical facilities in the country especially in the rural areas; to embark on health and sanitarian campaigns aimed at speedily erradicating mass killers such as malaria, bilharzia, and venereal diseases, etc.; to educate people in basic hygiene and sanitation and to involve them on erradicate-diseases

campaigns;

b) to scientifically study traditional medicines and treatments so as to popularize, improve and support the effective ones and thereby enable the people to take full advantage of them.

c) To provide to the broad masses essential medicines and medical treatments at reasonably low prices taking into account the peoples ability to meet such needs.

d) To promote and encourage physical education and sport so that the broad masses can fully participate in such activities.

e) To establish and expand medical and health services in the rural areas.

f) To organize and provide health and medical services which shall be assumed by the state.

VII TO BUILD PEOPLES' ARMY WHICH SERVES AND DEFENDS THE BROAD MASSES AND THE COUNTRY.

1. To abolish U.S. led imperialist military organizations in the country and do away with

dependence on arms from the imperialists; to shut down all foreign military bases and to expel all imperialist military personnel and "advisers" from the country; never to allow any foreign military base or centers to be established in the country.

2. To establish a disciplined peoples' army wholly devoted to the defence of and service to the peoples; to be recruited mainly from amongst the working class and the peasantry and to be founded on and guided by the true love and democracy for the masses; to engage in production in times of peace; to develop the army's political consciousness and provide them with the necessary education to heighten their love of the peoples; to ensure that the peoples' army conduct its work on the basis of democracy.

3. To establish a peoples' Militia (including civilian members) in every area in order to ensure the security of the peoples living in

that area and consequently also protect and defend the revolution, the rights of the peoples and independence of the country

4. To raise the standard of living of the member of peoples' army; to strictly prohibit maltreatment of soldiers by their officers; to help the family of soldiers on out-of-home duty and arrange special care for the family of those who lay down their lives for the cause of the peoples.

5. To reward and give full recognition to the commendable deeds of those soldiers and officers of the now existing army who resisted or are resisting to fight against and refuse to participate in the mass extermination of oppressed peoples and oppressed nationalities in the country; and those who in actual practice side with the broad masses of the people in the anti-imperialist and anti-feudal struggle; to treat leniently those officers and soldiers

of the present army who committed crimes against the peoples but who later show sincere repentance for their crimes and save themselves up to the peoples.

VIII TO ENSURE EQUAL RIGHTS BETWEEN THE SEXES.

A. To ensure equality between men and women politically economically and socially.

B. To oppose the confinement of women to the kitchen and to encourage them to engage in economic production; to upgrade the political, cultural and vocational positions of women; to develop the fine qualities of Ethiopian working women including their readiness to struggle for their rights and freedom, their patriotic feelings, etc.

C. To put into practice the principle of equal pay for equal work for men and women alike.

D. To safeguard the rights of women and children; to ensure that working women in urban as well as rural areas be given light jobs during the

months of pregnancy and a minimum of two months maternity leave with full pay; to build daycare centers near and around places of work so that working mothers can visit and feed their babies during the day at fixed intervals,

E. To give free medical service for pregnant and nursing mothers and their children; to make every effort to establish and expand kindergartens.

F. To create conducive atmosphere and the necessary legal support for a happy marriage, healthy family relations for a healthy society; in marriage to ensure that it is concluded on the basis of mutual consent by both parties concerned; no interference by a third party is permitted; to ensure the right to divorce; the duty to care for children rests on both parents; to abolish the oppression and exploitation as may exist of wives by husbands and/or the latter's relatives, and of children by their parents.

G. To ensure that children born out of wedlock enjoy the same rights as children in 'lawful' wedlock, no person is allowed to harm them or discriminate against them; to help needy widows with children.

H. To protect the right of women to birth control.

I. To forbid by law all customs and practices that are against the interest of women; to abolish practices degrading to the women such as prostitution which is being nurtured and abetted by feudalism and imperialism; to reeducate and persuade prostitutes by providing them tangible opportunities to engage themselves in healthy and productive economic activities.

IX TO PURSUE A POLICY OF PEACE AND NON-ALLIANCE.

A. To abolish all treaties and obligations signed with foreign countries which compromise the independence and sovereignty of the country, and are reactionary in essence.

B. To establish friendly and diplomatic relations with all countries - irrespective of the political and economic they have adopted - on the basis of the five principles: namely, the principles of independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity; mutual non-aggression; noninterference in the internal affairs of each other; equality and mutual benefits; and peaceful co-existence.

C. Not to enter any military block, obligation and treaty, not to allow any foreign army to enter the country and never to allow any foreign military base.

D. To accept foreign economic and technical assistance from all countries willing to help without any strings attached.

E. To strengthen friendly relations with progressive nations who support the Ethiopian peoples in their anti-imperialist and anti-feudal struggles.

F. To strengthen friendly relations with progressive governments of neighbouring countries; to promote friendly relation and cooperation between the peoples of Ethiopia and the peoples of the neighbouring countries and other progressive forces.

G. To actively support in practice and strengthen all progressive movements aimed at consolidating the O.A.U in its progressive endeavors all over the continent; to strengthen friendly relations with all progressive African countries that are committed to making O.A.U. responsive to the objective needs of the African peoples.

H. To especially strengthen unity and friendship with all African organizations and peoples opposing imperialism, colonialism and racism; to support in action all such organizations and peoples.

I. To strengthen friendly relations with the Palestinian, Oman, and Arabian Peninsula's

Revolutionary National Liberation Movements and Organizations.

- To strengthen relations with and support in the concrete the Arab peoples who are struggling against imperialism and Zionism.

-To support the peoples of Asia, and Latin America in their anti-imperialist struggles, and in their struggles to safeguard their hard-won victories.

-To support the struggle of Afro-Americans (black Americans), American Indians, Puerto Ricans, Mexicans and other non-white oppressed minorities in their struggles against discrimination and for their fundamental human rights.

9. To support the peoples of the world in the struggle for peace, democracy and socialist development.

The Resolute and Vigilant Proletariat!!

Your dreams of many years are at last coming true. Your vanguard army of fighters for whose existence and growth you have secretly and openly struggled, at the sacrifice of your life and your property, has now openly declared itself.

The Ethiopian Peoples' Revolutionary Party is standing shoulder to shoulder with you to agitate and struggle for your cause; it is a lawyer at your side to support you but never to replace you. It is your guide for action pointing at the correct and timely methods of struggle as well as the correct path to final victory; it is your torch that unsparingly exposes both the glaring and concealed essence of your enemies; the Party is your right hand for your revolutionary struggle, it is not a dictatorial force which usurps your leadership, pays lip service to your name and your just

cause, engages in endless self-aggrandizement. ...does all these and more not to serve your and the masses' interest but its own. To lead, advance, consummate and safeguard the revolution is yours, therefore support, embrace and direct the E.P.R.P.-your advocate and your vanguard-which is an integral and revolutionary part of you.

On the basis of this programme, unite and consolidate your rank-and-file, establish and strengthen your alliance with the peasantry, call the broad masses around you for a revolutionary struggle to consummate the New Democratic Revolution. For you shall not be liberated from exploitation and oppression, without liberating the broad masses of the Ethiopian peoples.

The Toiling Poor Peasants!!

Your long years of struggle and efforts are now taking shape and becoming fruitful. Your

most resolute and determined class-brother-
the proletariat-is organized! It is fighting
to crush your oppressors and exploiters
scattered throughout the cities, towns and
their urban hideouts. Give telling blows to
your class enemies in the countryside. Neither
be deceived, nor get disarmed by the way
the land is said to be owned these days.
Unless you safeguard your land through political
power, which grows out of the barrel of the
gun, it can be taken back by any contender
claiming ownership by force. To make sure that
land falls and remains under your control, you
have to be your own liberator by becoming
master of your own destiny, by holding power
over your class enemies at all levels... in
villages, districts, provinces, etc. Liberate
yourself by becoming the master of your land
and your toil. No one else, but you should and
can liberate yourself. To ensure the success of

your struggle, however, you need assistance
from your class brother the proletariat. Know
your enemies and your friends: who is on your
side-the working class or the bourgeoisie? Your
true most reliable and revolutionary friend
and class brother, the proletariat, is standing
at your side and at the forefront; it's struggl-
ing for its and your just causes through its
party, its vanguard organization. Therefore,
follow the example of the proletariat and be
vigilant in your struggle to march alongside
with him. Strengthen your unity in struggle with
the proletariat; hold tight to each other's iron
hands to solidify your revolutionary alliance.

The Broad Masses!!

You heroically stood up last year in
February to break the rusted chains of oppression
and exploitation. For this just struggle, you
have suffered and shed your blood which marked
the clear advancement of the revolution. You

smashed the autocratic king and his ruling cliques. But the brutal oppression and exploitation are continuing under new forms and in a way more sophisticated. All these are hardly possible to conceal. Because, the revolution for which you bled, and made a life and death struggle is snatched out of your hold by the self-appointed caretakers. In this respect the revolution is being misdirected to serve the interest of the ruling class..not yours. On the contrary, the very revolution you have set in motion is twisted to destroy you. Therefore, before it becomes too late, you should reclaim the revolution and assert your rights. And throughout this historical struggle you wage, E.P.R.P will stand and fight at your side until final victory.

The resolute workers and the poor peasants!

The broad masses of the military forces!

City dwellers, townsmen and villagers!

Patriotic country people!

Stand united for peoples' democracy. Struggle for and advance to Socialism under the leadership of the working class.. which is capable of and destined to building Communism where exploitation of man by man ceases, where the state gradually withers away, where every man is a friend, a comrade and a brother to another man.

To this end, arise all and march forward following the heroic paths of the patriots and comrades who have given their life for liberation and revolution. Let's march forward via New Democracy to the impending historical milestone of socialism....the transitional stage towards the classless society.

Forward With Revolution!!

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-This program is out also in Amharic,
Oromigna, Tigrigna, French and Arabic.

-Ce programme est aussi publié - en
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en Anglais, et en Arabe.

أريد وقرؤم هذه البرنامج في الوثيقة التالية
في الأمارية في الأرمينية في القفرية في الأمازيغية
في الفرنسية في العربية

- ይህ ፕሮግራም በኦሮሞኛ፣ በተገልግሎት በአገልግሎት
በረረገባዊኛና በአረብኛ ቅጽ ወጥቷል፡፡

- የዚህ ዓይነት ፕሮግራም በጉሳኝ አገልግሎት አገልግሎት
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